



Alexandria, Va.

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 6.

In the Senate, to-day, the bill to repeal the bankruptcy act was considered for a short time, and Mr. Gorham addressed the Senate upon the bill to repeal the resumption act.

In the House of Representatives the resolution to reduce the tax on tobacco was defeated for want of the necessary two-thirds majority, the vote being 120 yeas to 115 nays. The District Government bill was under consideration.

It is said that Gen. Butler will not be a candidate for re-election to Congress, but that he will exert all his remaining energy upon his hitherto unsuccessful task of reaching the gubernatorial chair of Massachusetts. The General knows as much as the best informed upon the subject about the frauds by which Mr. Hayes obtained the presidency, and he will use his knowledge if it will help him, but he is getting old now, and his physical and mental strength are both failing, and if it be possible he will cheerfully relinquish his position in Congress, from which the bricks he throws fall now to reach their objects by reason of his enfeebled arm, for the more comfortable one in the State house at Boston. As it is not probable a democrat will be elected Governor of Massachusetts again shortly, we hope the General may succeed in his aspirations. He can't do much harm in Congress now, but his presence there is unsightly, and recalls unpleasant memories, and a residence in Boston will suit him better than one in Washington, and the fact of his living there will be more agreeable to his fellow countrymen throughout the Union. By all means let him be Massachusetts' next Governor.

The President having, in the expressive language of the streets, deliberately "gone back" on his home rule and civil service reform policy, it would not, in view of the troubles besetting him by reason of the Florida and other revolutions, surprise reflecting men were to end his lately erratic course by returning to the bosom of the radical party, raising the bloody shirt, and marching on as the figure head of the Blaines, Howes, Tweedsmo, and the other captives of the crowd who are wise enough to know that their chance of prolonged political life has now reached the condition of desolation, and that that flag is the only one that holds out any hope of success, and that even under it they will go into the fight heavily outnumbered, and with the odds against them. It is a forlorn hope to be sure, but it is the only one now left to them, and like sensible men they will cling to it. The President's cessation would strengthen them, and, for the help thus afforded, they would not only cease their opposition to him, but defend to the last of their ability the attack that will probably be made upon his title to the presidency.

The present Congress seems to be in bad repute with all parties. We have heretofore published unfavorable, though just, opinions of it from both democratic and republican sources, and now the independents, of the Washington Capital type, speak of it as follows:— "It has been in session since last October, and yet, to this time, not a measure has been passed looking to the relief of their constituents. At this moment they stubbornly refuse to lift from our shoulders the burdens imposed upon us by a protective tariff, that, while it augments the cost of living, reduces compensation for labor, and increasing, for the benefit of a few, the price of all we use and wear, shuts against our produce the markets of the world. "We would not be surprised to see this House scattered in such fragments that its remains, like its wisdom, could not be found for purposes of inequity."

The President to-day nominated Mr. Packard as consul to Liverpool. By this nomination he has about completed his part of the bargain, that is with the leaders of the movement, by which he was inaugurated. There are, however, numerous smaller fry, whose claims for the part they took in the fraud must be settled, and as small creditors are usually more clamorous for their dues than larger ones, he will have to submit to a great deal of annoyance before they can be satisfied. But the worst of it is that the greater number paid the more apparent becomes the flaw in his title. If "uneasy rests the head that wears a crown" on what our oars must reline the oar of a man who bought his presidency and paid for it with a price, and that, too, in the presence of all the people?

The opening of a stage line between New York and Philadelphia by the New York Driving Club, last Saturday, was mentioned in the Gazette of that day. The trip was made on scheduled time, twelve hours. The distance is ninety miles, divided into nine stages. It seems strange that such an opposition to the railroad should be started, but on the principle that variety is the spice of life, we suppose it will succeed, especially as the drivers are such gentlemen as Col. Delaney Kane, and other fashionable "blooms" of Gotham.

Judge Hoadley, of Cincinnati, who took an important part in the argument before the electoral commission, like Governor Letcher, entirely approves Mr. Blair's movement, and the proposed Congressional investigation of the Florida fraud, and says: "There is no doubt that Florida and Louisiana voted for Tilden, and that he was lawfully elected President, and if this steal of the Presidency be condoned that others will follow and our entire Republican system be subverted."

The House of Representatives, on Saturday, finally passed the Legislative, Executive and Judiciary appropriation bill, with a clause appropriating \$185,000 for the resumption of operations at the New Orleans mint.

Radical bravado succeeded so well in the attempt to inaugurate Mr. Hayes, that those who were benefited by it are now resorting to the same game in order to deter the democrats from probing the recent developments in the Florida fraud.— They threaten, in case that probing be determined on, a general investigation, which, they say, will expose such corruption on the part of certain democrats in the Oregon case, and the agreement by which Southern opposition to Mr. Hayes was withdrawn, that, by comparison, the Florida fraud will be insignificant. Threats are usually the weapons of cowards, and we should not wonder if in this case they hastened the accomplishment of the object they were intended to prevent.

The Order of the American Union is the name of a new organization just effected. It is after the manner of the Native Americans, though foreigners are admitted provided they be anti-Catholic. Its rise is but another evidence of the impending disruption of the republican party, and though it may attain some prominence in the North, by reason of the strength to be derived from those who are leaving the sinking radical ship, it will surely meet the fate of Know Nothingism when it invades Southern territory. The South is that portion of the country in which the spirit of the Declaration of Independence still survives.

Those who cannot go to the Paris exposition can derive what consolation is possible from the assertion of a correspondent of the New York Times, who, writing from the spot, says: "The visitor who comes here with fresh memories of Philadelphia must be advised to leave them behind if he desires to be impressed by the general effect of this exhibition. There is nothing comparable to the splendor and beauty which delighted him in Fairmount Park."

The defeat of the resolution to reduce the tax on tobacco in the House of Representatives, to-day, affords another evidence of the efficiency of the Virginia delegation. They voted against all subsidies for the North and West, and then expect Congressmen from those sections to vote for measures beneficial to Virginia.

Possessors of good telescopes were enabled to witness the transit of Mercury, a little after ten o'clock this morning. The planet made a very small spot on the sun's surface, as it passed across its disc, but was observed with great interest by astronomers wherever the transit was visible.

The British Quarterly Review for April has been received from its American publishers, the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, of New York. Its contents are: The First Ten Years of the Canadian Dominion; Myer; Victor Hugo; A Woman's Reply to Frederick Harrison, a short protest by Frances Maria against Mr. Harrison's theory of the Soul and Future Life; The Northwest Frontier of India; Constantinople; The Proposed New University of Manchester; The Duke of Argyll and Disestablishment in Scotland; The Russian and Turkish War; Phases of the Eastern Question, and Contemporary Literature.

The May number of the Southern Planter and Farmer has been received from its publisher, in Richmond. The leading article is on the "Cultivation and Curing of Fine Yellow and Shipping Tobacco, from the Plant to the Market." This number also contains a letter from Hon. A. Dudley Mann on "Bet Root Sugar," urging the farmers of the South to go into its cultivation. Col. John Washington and Col. Randolph Harrison also have articles in this number.

We have received the catalogue of the one hundred and second session of Hampton Normal College, this year, base seventy-eight students.

#### Foreign News.

A much better impression prevails at St. Petersburg respecting the prospect of the negotiations. It is rumored that the approaching arrival of Count Schouvaloff there on a visit is connected with a friendly exchange of views resulting from the pourparlers between London and St. Petersburg.

The Turks have evacuated Artvin in the Pashalik of Trebizond. This is considered the commencement of the execution of the treaty of San Stefano.

A Russo-Turkish convention has been concluded, arranging for the return of the Turkish refugees to their home. Only those will be sent back at present who belong to localities occupied by Russians outside of the principality of Bulgaria. Russian troops will accompany refugees to protect them and restore their property. The expenses will be borne by Turkey. A portion of the Russians at San Stefano have been withdrawn to Hademok.

It is understood that Russia has proposed a new military convention with Rumania, by which she will be empowered to construct camps at Ploesti and Fokschoi, engaging in return to remove the headquarters and other establishments connected with the troops from Bucharest. Rumania up to the present time has refused assent.

The Austrian and Hungarian Ministers have come to an agreement on the Austro-Hungarian compromise. The compromise will be submitted to Parliament for ratification next week.— Count Andrássy, at the Cabinet council, said that the realization of the vote of credit was urgently required to give power for speedily concentrating troops on the Transylvania and Bosnian frontiers.

The British government has ordered 1,000,000 pounds weight of lint and other appliances for the wounded.

Salvet Pasha has persuaded Gen. Todleben to grant a six days delay in regard to the evacuation of Subulma and Varna only. A report is current in Vienna that a famine prevails in Eastern Russia.

Preparations are making to disembark Indian troops at Port Said and Suez, and measures are being taken to secure the transit of three English iron clads, which are expected at Port Said on Tuesday.

Admiral Hornby with the iron clads Minotaur, Defense, Black Prince and Pallas is expected at Port Said on Tuesday. The situation is creating great excitement in Egypt. It is generally believed that arrangements have been concluded to land Indian troops there.

Russia has sent fresh communications to London and Vienna specifying concessions she is willing to grant, and again expressing her willingness to enter into special negotiations.

The most direct and shortest way seems to have been chosen for the resumption of the poor parlors—namely, through Lord Augustus Loftus. England's first reply produced a favorable impression at St. Petersburg.

A correspondent at Vienna intimates that

England has not abandoned her claim in regard to the submission of the whole treaty, but has at most consented to enter into an exchange of ideas concerning the merits of the treaty while the pourparlers to find a formula for the congress continue. The few days delay in obtaining any new renewal of negotiations is explained by the supposition that negotiations on the above topic and on the withdrawal from Constantinople were proceeding simultaneously, so that the understanding about one will depend on the arrival at about the other.

A Vienna correspondent confirms the report that an agreement has been reached between the Ministries relative to the Austro-Hungarian compromise. There seems to be some doubt as to whether the Parliaments will ratify the compromise; but the balance of opinion is that they will.

The Turks have not yet deemed the offer which the Russians apparently made to retire beyond Tobatalia sufficient compensation for the evacuation of the fortress.

They point to the other unfulfilled treaty stipulations, such as the non return of the Ottoman prisoners and the constant reinforcement of the Russian army, only the sick and wounded being sent home, and allege that part of the Russian (Asiatic) army has already landed at Buzas.— The Turks are unlikely to yield easily in regard to the fortresses.

Count Courte, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the Italian Senate on Saturday, said: "The news received during the past two days encourages hopes of the maintenance of peace. The government were not charged with excessive timidity, but Italy had to need to be constantly vigilant in order to maintain her position as a great power the interests of the country will not fail to protect the interests of the country while maintaining scrupulous impartiality." The Senate unanimously passed a vote of confidence.

LONDON, May 6.—A special dispatch from Constantinople to the Times, dated May 5th, says: "Sadik Pasha, President of the Turkish Council of Ministers, and Safvet Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, had a long interview with Gen. Todleben yesterday. Gen. Todleben had visited Bujukdere with his staff and examined the coast of the Bosphorus."

As evidence that nothing stirring is likely to occur for a few days the correspondent at Vienna of the Times says that Count Andrássy will leave to day for Syria on a shooting excursion. The report in the Times of India, mentioned in these dispatches last night, that an expedition will sail for the Suez, refers to the expedition that has already sailed.

St. PETERSBURG, May 6.—Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador at London, is expected in this city this week. Much importance is attached to his visit. It is understood that he will stay here about two weeks.

LONDON, May 6.—While the general political situation is unchanged, and the course of the negotiations between St. Petersburg and London continues uneventful, there is no lack of important incident. "At Constantinople," says the Daily News: "Another palace revolution is threatened. The conspirators for the overthrow of Sultan Abdul Hamid and the accession of Murad, or somebody else actually fixed on day last week for the attempt, but their plans and the conspirators say that they must wait until the Russians go. It is difficult to say what would be the attitude of the Russians in case of a revolution, but there is great danger that the Russian and English troops would come into collision in such an event. English influence is now believed to be uppermost in the councils of the Sultan, who, between Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador, pulling one way, and the Russians the other, has any anything but a pleasant time. The majority of the pashas and all of the State ministers are against the Sultan and the people are sullen and discontented. There have been violent speeches against the tax on bread, which is now at famine prices. The pashas are all ready to fly at each other's throats. Osman Pasha, for instance, is cursed on all sides by the other pashas as a fool, and by some as a traitor. Without either English or Russian support the Sultan could not stay on the throne another day."

Sultan Abdul Hamid succeeded Murad, his elder brother, who was deposed August 31, 1876. The same correspondent says: "Sadik Pasha is certain not to remain chief of the ministry long, though it is difficult to see what English influence would exert by his overthrow. If it is true, as all the correspondents at the Turkish capital agree that the present Cabinet manifest British tendencies even more frankly than their predecessors. Such friendly ministrations may be a blind however. "The Daily News' Constantinople correspondent also says: "I have just heard that the Porte has sent a note to the powers maintaining that it cannot evacuate Suva, Varna and Batumi until the Russians retire, and according to the treaty of San Stefano, the surrender of Adrianople. The Russians of course maintain the counter proposition that they cannot withdraw until the Turks evacuate the fortresses."

LONDON, May 6.—The coming week will be an unusually busy one at the English arsenals and dock yards. Ship owners who hitherto have been privileged to berth their vessels in proximity to the admiralty moorings, opposite the victualling yard, at Deptford, have received notice to remove them by to-day, as all the room available is to be reserved for transports. The reports of recruiting officers for the past month show a remarkable increase in the number of enlistments for the army and the increase is still advancing at a steady rate.

LONDON, May 6.—Continued fighting is reported about Hasko, the scene of the Pomak insurrection. Virginia News. Spring chickens are selling at Manassas for fifteen cents.

Dr. Ruffner's codification of the school laws will be issued during the coming month.

Kemp B. Grigsby, a well known citizen of Warrenton, died there last week, upwards of three score and ten years of age.

Col. Thomas Dodamead, formerly superintendent of the Richmond & Danville, and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads, but now of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, is extremely ill.

The Manassas Gazette says: "The residence of Mr. Wm. Beverly, son of Major Robert Beverly, near Thoroughfare Station, was destroyed by fire on Friday night a week ago. The property was insured."

Senator Johnston and Representatives Good and Cabell were among those who waited upon the President last Saturday with an application for the appointment of ex-Representative D. C. DeJarnette to the vacancy in the District Commission, occasioned by the resignation of Gov. Dennison.

Disastrous Explosion. MEMPHIS, TENN., May 6.—Shortly after 7 o'clock this morning a portable engine, standing in front of Bobien, Hue & Co's ice house, at the foot of Jefferson street, exploded with terrific force, instantly killing John Holst, engineer, and probably fatally injuring James Kane, fireman. The following laborers were also wounded: Barney Burns, leg broken; Tom Steine, arm broken and scalded; Thomas Moore, arm broken and severely scalded; Friday Gillin, colored, who was passing the spot on his way to work, was severely scalded. The engine was used in hoisting ice out of the storage in the house, and a fire had been built under it with little water in the boiler, which fact was only discovered at the moment of the explosion. A piece of the boiler was driven through a wall of Latta's soap factory, and another piece into Glenn's wharf boat, a block away.

John M. Cable, one of the oldest revenue officers in the U. S., and eighty years a resident of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., died this morning.

#### Jefferson Davis' Last Letter.

The following is the full text of the letter, a synopsis of which, received by telegraph, has been heretofore published:—

GENTLEMEN: I sincerely regret my inability to be present at the laying of the cornerstone of a monument to be erected in Macon, Ga., in honor of our dear Confederate soldiers.

The event possesses every attraction to me; it is inspired by the Ladies' Memorial Association; the monument is to be located in the Keystone State of the Confederate arch, and to commemorate the sacrifice of those who died in the defense of our inherited and "inalienable" rights.

What, though we were overborne by numbers, and accessories not less efficient, truth is not to be measured by success in maintaining it against force; nor is the glory less of him who upholds it in the face of unequal odds; but is it not rather more to his credit that he counted all else as dust in the balance when weighed with honor and duty? On many a stricken field our soldiers stood few and faint, but fearless still, for they were the panoply of unquenchable confidence in the rectitude of their cause, and knew how to die, but not to surrender. Let not any of their survivors impugn their faith by offering the posthumous plea that "they believed they were right."

It is meet that this monument should have originated with the ladies of the land, whose self denial was conspicuous through all the trials and sufferings of war, whose gentle ministrations to the hospitals and to the weary and the wounded, and whose unflinching devotion to their country's cause in the darkest hours of our struggle illustrated the fidelity of the sex which was last at the cross and first at the sepulchre.

I am profoundly thankful to them for inviting me to represent them as their orator on the approaching occasion. Had it been practically to accept, their request would have been to me a command, obeyed with no other reluctance than the consciousness of inability to do justice to the theme.

Thanks to the merits of our Confederate dead, they need neither orator nor bard to commend their deeds to the present generation of their countrymen. Many fell far from home and kindred, and sleep in unmarked graves; but all are gathered in the love of those for whom they died, and their memories are hallowed in the hearts of all true Confederates.

By the pious efforts of our people many humble cemeteries, such as, in their impoverishment, were possible, have been prepared, and the Confederate dead have been collected in them from neighboring battle fields. There annually, with reverential affection, the graves, alike of the known and unknown, are decked with vernal flowers, expressive of gratitude renewable forever, and typical of the hope of a resurrection and reunion where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.

To be remembered, honored, beloved by their people is the reward bestowed on our Confederate dead. It is the highest which a good and purely patriotic man could desire. Should it be asked why then build this monument? the answer is, they do not need it, but posterity may. It is not their reward, but our gift. If the greatest gift a hero gives to his country is to have been a hero, to order that this gift may be utilized to coming generations, his appreciation by posterity should be rendered as visible and enduring as possible. Let the monument, rising from earth toward Heaven, lift the minds of those who come after us to a higher standard than the common test of success. Let it teach that man is born for duty, not for expediency; that when at task it made on the community to which he belongs, by which he is protected, and to which his allegiance is due, his first obligation is to defend that community; and that under such conditions it is better to have "Victory" and "Lost," than never to have fought at all. Let posterity learn by this monument that our commoner men who have died in a defensive war; that they did not, as has been idly said, submit to the arbitrament of arms the questions at issue—questions which involved the inalienable rights inherited from their ancestors, and held fast for their posterity; but that they strove to maintain the State sovereignty which their fathers left them, and which it was their duty, if possible, to transmit to their children.

Away, then, with such feeble excuses for the "lost principles," which may be crushed for a while, but which, possessing the eternal vitality of truth, must in its own good time prevail over perishable error. Let this monument teach that heroism derives its lustre from the justice of the cause in which it is displayed, and let it mark the difference between a war waged for the robberlike purpose of conquest and one to repel invasion, to defend a people's hearths and altars, and to maintain their laws and liberties. Such was the war in which our heroes fell, and theirs is the crown which sparkles with the gems of patriotism and righteousness, with the glory dimmed by any motive of aggrandizement or intent to inflict ruin on others. We present them to posterity as examples to be followed, and wait securely for the verdict of mankind when knowledge shall have dispelled misapprehension, and let it mark the difference between a war waged for the robberlike purpose of conquest and one to repel invasion, to defend a people's hearths and altars, and to maintain their laws and liberties. Such was the war in which our heroes fell, and theirs is the crown which sparkles with the gems of patriotism and righteousness, with the glory dimmed by any motive of aggrandizement or intent to inflict ruin on others. We present them to posterity as examples to be followed, and wait securely for the verdict of mankind when knowledge shall have dispelled misapprehension, and let it mark the difference between a war waged for the robberlike purpose of conquest and one to repel invasion, to defend a people's hearths and altars, and to maintain their laws and liberties. 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